

forum

ORIG INDIANA Uni.
(orig under CIA2.06.)

Readers view CIA recruitment

Editor's Note: Due to the volume of response the issue of CIA recruitment elicited we'd like to devote the entire page today to the reader's views. Thursday's demonstration was successful in that the CIA cancelled recruitment interviews, although they reportedly interviewed students who had previously expressed an interest in CIA employment off campus.

Freedom to choose

To the editor:

On Wednesday there was a much publicized meeting to discuss "Getting the CIA off campus." I didn't go, and as I'm writing of Wednesday, I don't know how it turned out. However, I have something to say about it. I address my words directly to the young lady with the bullhorn, but indirectly to all like her.

Miss, you and your friends claim to be in favor of liberty, justice, equality and all other nice things. Fine. So why don't you base your actions accordingly? You are opposed to the CIA, and I don't fault you for that. But isn't every other student entitled to judge for himself? You would deny the other students at I.U. their freedom to choose for themselves, whether or not they will approve of the CIA, and to have the CIA present us it's case. You apparently do not regard your fellow students as mature and intelligent enough to judge the CIA for themselves according to it's merits, but would censor anything that agency might say in it's own defense.

I am compelled to compare you with the man who wants to outlaw pornography. That pornography is wrong is only his personal opinion, and if it means so much to him, he should do his best to persuade people not to patronize X-rated movies; *not* tell them that they *cannot* patronize them. Similarly, no matter how sure you are that the CIA ought to be abolished, it is not up to you to force your decision on others, but to persuade them that you are right, and let them act in accordance with their own conscience. In other words, your approach ought not to be "Don't let CIA speak on campus," but "CIA is wrong because -- and --, so please don't support them." Then let each listener choose for himself, even as you chose for yourself.

I happen to agree that the CIA is bad, but that makes no difference; no matter how indefensible their position may appear to you or me, they are entitled to try and defend it, *and we students are entitled to hear their defense if we so choose, and to agree, and even join, if we so choose.*

Besides, don't you know that the best way to hang a fool is to let him talk?

Mike Snyder
Bloomington
March 11

U.S. needs CIA

To the editor:

I surely must agree with the majority of my peers on this campus that the CIA is far from perfect, and has committed acts that even in our 'existential' society we deem to be morally wrong per se. However, I find the

current solution of banning CIA recruiting on the I.U. campus, to be far removed from a plausible or appropriate solution. I must also admit that our country has a need for an organization such as the CIA. Although it is imperfect, it has it's positive aspects too; but alas the "bad" is always far more sensational than it's lesser remembered counterpart -- the "good."